Forest Service Maiheur National Forest Blue Mountian Ranger District P.O. Box 909 John Day, OR 97845 (541) 575-3000

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Dear Forest User

In the fall of 2002, I initiated a project to prepare a watershed analysis (WA) for the Canyon Creek Watershed in the John Day River sub-basin using the process *Ecosystem Analysis at the Watershed Scale - Federal Guide for Watershed Analysis* by David Evans and Associates Incorporated of Portland, Oregon and Duck Creek Associates, Incorporated of Corvallis, Oregon under a professional services contract. I am pleased to announce the WA has been completed. Enclosed, you will find a copy.

The Watershed Analysis (WA) is analyses for implementing the Aquatic Conservation Strategy set forth in PACFISH/INFISH. It provides the watershed context for fisheries protection, restoration and enhancement. In addition the WA will be used to prepare projects under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) based on recommendations from this analysis. There may be several projects analyzed under the NEPA planning procedures to implement recommendations from the WA after a period of public comment and further analysis for each project.

The data used is this analysis, specifically the vegetation information completed via photo interpretation, will undergo field verification during project design. It is not expected that the field verification of the vegetation data will change the basic assumptions and recommendations in this document, but it is important to note that a WA is a dynamic document, which can be updated periodically as new information becomes available.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact James Kelly, or Brian Lynch, District Environmental Coordinator at 541-575-3000. Thank you for your continued interest in the Malheur National Forest.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Montgomery

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District Ranger

